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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/816,139	04/01/2004	Bryan Thomas Starbuck	13768.501	2496
47973 7590 11/02/2007 WORKMAN NYDEGGER/MICROSOFT 1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER 60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111			EXAMINER PERUNGA VOOR, VENKATANARAY	
			ART UNIT 2132	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/02/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/816,139

Applicant(s)

STARBUCK ET AL.

Examiner

Venkat Perungavoor

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/1/04</u> .  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

Art Unit: 2132

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 13, 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6574233 to Fuller et al.(hereinafter Fuller) in view of US Patent Publication 2004/0025020 to Yoshimura et al.(hereinafter Yoshimura) further in view of US Patent Publication 2001/0018698 A1 to Uchino et al.(hereinafter Uchino).

Regarding Claim 1, 13, 24, Fuller discloses the receiving legacy data over an unsecured legacy channel using legacy protocol for legacy clients see Col 2 Ln 54-64; participating in the creation of secure side channel for exchanging extended data properties and supporting functionalities not offered by the legacy protocol see Col 3 Ln 14-26; receiving over the secure side channel extended data that includes a client hash value, created by a client when hashing at least portion of legacy data and metadata for defining extended data properties that extend the legacy protocol see Col 3 Ln 46-Col 4 Ln 25; linking the legacy data see Col 3 Ln 14-24. But Fuller does not explicitly disclose creating a server hash value by hashing at least portion of the legacy data received over the unsecured legacy channel and the extended data and comparing the client hash value with the server hash value to ensure the legacy data has not been altered for extending the functionality of the legacy protocol by securing the unsecured legacy channel without having modified the legacy protocol.

Art Unit: 2132

However, Yoshimura discloses the creating a server and client hash values based on the authentication data being compared with each other see Par. 0017 & Par. 0019. It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the authentication information of Yoshimura to legacy data in the invention of Fuller in order to ensure that data transmitted over unsecure channel is encrypted see Par. 0019. But does not disclose the message board explicitly for posting messages. However, Uchino discloses the message board for posting messages see Fig. 1. It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include discloses the message board for posting messages in the invention of Uchino in order to have a forum for discussion.

Claims 2-3, 5, 14-15, 17, 25-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6574233 to Fuller et al. (hereinafter Fuller) in view of US Patent Publication 2004/0025020 to Yoshimura et al. (hereinafter Yoshimura) further in view of US Patent 2004/0260778 to Banister et al. (hereinafter Banister).

Regarding Claim 2-3, 5, 14-15, 17, 25-28, Fuller does not explicitly disclose the type of message and the profiler data. However, Banister discloses the type of message and the profiler data see Par. 0064 & Par. 0111 & Par. 0114. It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the type of message and the profiler data invention of Fuller in order to have identifiers of the messages and the senders for viewing by the administrators.

Claims 4, 6-12, 16, 18-23, 29, 31-34, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6574233 to Fuller et al. (hereinafter Fuller) in view of US Patent Publication

Art Unit: 2132

2004/0025020 to Yoshimura et al.(hereinafter Yoshimura) further in view of US Patent

2003/0115259 to Narayanan.

Regarding Claim 4, 6-12, 16, 18-23, 29, 31-34, Fuller nor Yoshimura discloses the opinion rating, expert level and scaled scoring. However, Narayanan discloses the opinion rating, expert level and scaled scoring see Par. 0024 & Par. 0019 & Par. 0044. It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the opinion rating, expert level and scaled scoring invention of Fuller in gauge the users on the message board.

Claims 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by US Patent 2002/0107910 to Zhao in view of US Patent 2001/0018698 A1 to Uchino et al.(hereinafter Uchino).

Regarding Claim 35, Zhao discloses the receiving the initial message from client for posting on a message, the initial message having extended attributes that include message type, visual representation data and data identifying the type of person posting the initial message see Par. 0020; receiving one or more subsequent messages from one or more subsequent messages for posting, having extended attributes that include a message type, visual representation data and data identifying the type of person posting the one or more messages see Par. 0015; correlating the initial message with one or more subsequent messages for creating a message thread, which is a list of the visual representation data for the initial message and the one or more subsequent message see Par. 0013; receiving user-specified message criteria important to user for determining if the message thread can be collapsed see Par. 0031; based on the user-specified message criteria, evaluating one or more the extended attributes in the one or more subsequent messages against one or more of the

Art Unit: 2132

extended attributes in the initial message for determining if the message thread can be collapsed into a minimized visual representation of the message tree see Par. 0039. But does not disclose the message board explicitly for posting messages. However, Uchino discloses the message board for posting messages see Fig. 1. It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include discloses the message board for posting messages in the invention of Zhao in order to have a forum for discussion.

Claims 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 2002/0107910 to Zhao in view of US Patent 2001/0018698 A1 to Uchino further in view of US Patent 2004/0260778 to Banister.

Regarding Claim 36-38, Zhao nor Uchino does not explicitly disclose the type of message and the profiler data. However, Banister discloses the type of message and the profiler data see Par. 0064 & Par. 0111 & Par. 0114. It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the type of message and the profiler data invention of Zhao in order to have identifiers of the messages and the senders for viewing by the administrators.

Claims 39-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 2002/0107910 to Zhao in view of US Patent 2001/0018698 A1 to Uchino further in view of US Patent 2003/0115259 to Narayanan.

Regarding Claim 39-40, Zhao nor Uchino does not discloses the opinion rating, expert level and scaled scoring. However, Narayanan discloses the opinion rating, expert level and scaled scoring see

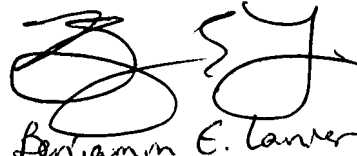
Art Unit: 2132

Par. 0024 & Par. 0019 & Par. 0044. It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include the opinion rating, expert level and scaled scoring invention of Fuller in gauge the users on the message board.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Venkat Perungavoor whose telephone number is 571-272-7213. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/VP/  
Venkat Perungavoor  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2132  
October 11, 2007

  
Benjamin E. Lanier  
Examiner DU 2132